

TWO NEW FORMS OF PLEBEJINAE FROM WYOMING

CLIFFORD D. FERRIS

University of Wyoming, Laramie

DURING THE 1969 COLLECTING SEASON, two heretofore undescribed forms of Plebejinae were taken. They are now briefly described.

Plebejus (Icaricia) acmon lutzi form nov. *pseudolupini*

This insect is being described from a series of ten males. In facies, the butterfly resembles *I. acmon lutzi* dos Passos with the exception of the submarginal orange spot-row on the secondaries. Both ventrally and dorsally this row is broken into discrete small spots resembling those on *lupini* (Boisduval). In several of the specimens, the spots on the upper side are almost obsolete. The black portion is clear, but the orange coloring is extremely reduced. Ventrally the orange spots are larger than those above, but are much reduced over normal *lutzi*. The male genitalia are identical to *lutzi*.

Holotype. — ♂, near Eagle Rock, 8200' approx., Sherman Range, Medicine Bow N.F., Albany Co., Wyoming, 27 June, 1969.

Paratypes. — 1 ♂, 27 June; 2 ♂, 29 June; 2 ♂, 1 July; 4 ♂, 6 July, 1969. The paratypes are from Pole Mountain, 8200' approx., Sherman Range, Medicine Bow National Forest, Albany Co., Wyoming. Expanse (costal margin length): 1.22 cm average.

Plebejus (Plebejus) saepiolus saepiolus

♀ form nov. *caerulescens*

The description is based upon a series of seven specimens from the type locality, which is in the Black Hills along the Weston Co., Wyoming — Lawrence Co., South Dakota boundary. The author has in his collection three additional females from Arizona (Apache Co., vic. Alpine, 8200'-8500') which resemble the form being described.

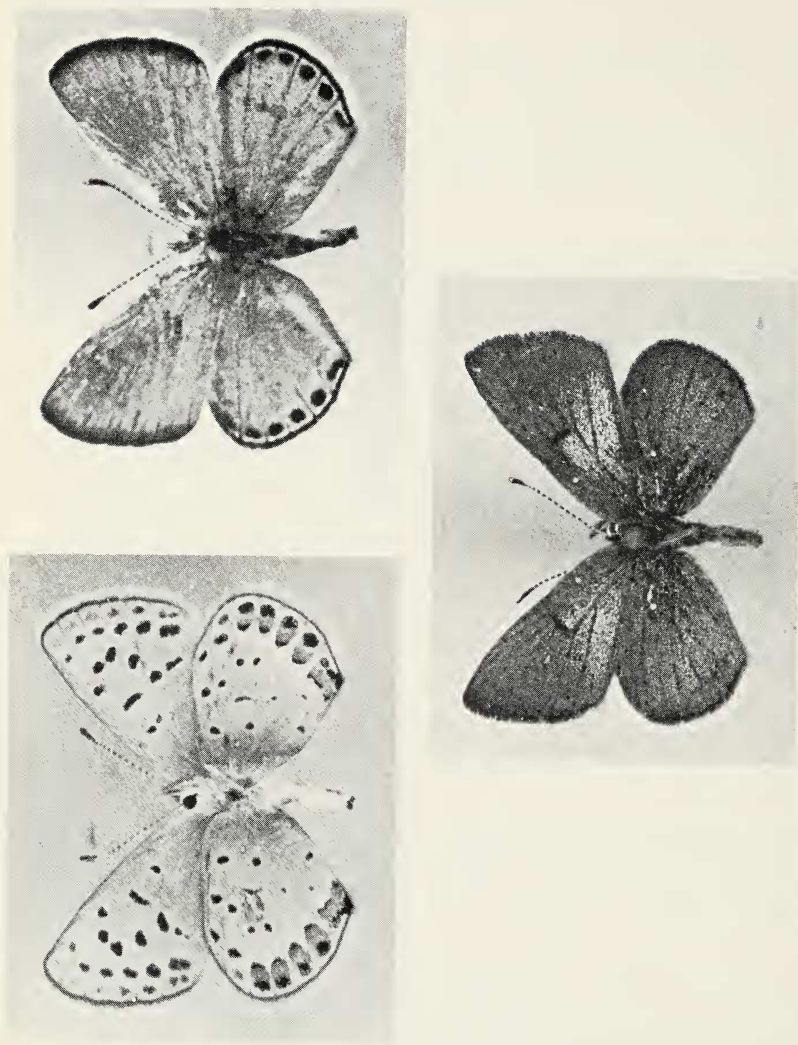


Fig. 1.—Top: dorsal and ventral views of holotype male of *Plebejus* (*Icaricia*) *acmon lutzii* f. *pseudolupini*; Bottom: dorsal view of holotype female of *Plebejus* (*Plebejus*) *saepiolus* f. *caerulescens*.

Two subspecies of *saepiolus* (Boisduval) are recorded from the Rocky Mountain region: *saepiolus* (Boisduval) and *whitmeri* Brown, although *gertschi* dos Passos may intrude into the western slope. "Normal" females of *saepiolus* are warm brown dorsally with a submarginal orange spot-band on the secondaries which varies from obsolete to relatively distinct. Occasionally the ruddy female form *rufescens* (Boisduval) is taken. *P. saepiolus whitmeri* females show extensive dorsal blue of the same hue as the males.

The new form represents a certain percentage of the female population of *s. saepiolus* in the Black Hills. It differs from normal females by having substantial dorsal blue scaling. On the primaries this extends from the body over the basal half of the wings; on the secondaries, the amount of blue varies in extent and ranges from the basal half to the entire wing surface. The dorsal submarginal orange spots on the secondaries may or may not be present, as in usual *saepiolus*. Dorsally the brown ground color is darker than in normal *saepiolus*, especially at the apex of the forewing. The blue color generally suggests a darker hue than that of the male and is quite luminous. It is a deeper shade of blue than is found in *whitmeri*.

Holotype. — ♀, Crooks Tower Road, Black Hills N. F., 6000' approx., Lawrence Co., South Dakota, 4 July, 1969.

Paratypes. — 3 ♀, same date and location as holotype; 1 ♀ 2 July, and 2 ♀ 4 July, 1969 from Weston Co., Wyoming — Lawrence Co., South Dakota boundary along U. S. Highway 85.

Expanse (length of costal margin): 1.38 cm average.

The author would like to acknowledge a discussion with F. Martin Brown which led to preparation of this paper. There has been no distribution of paratype material to date, as the specimens are needed for a continuing study of Wyoming Rhopalocera.

This paper is published with the approval of the Director, Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Station, as Journal Paper No. 433.